

hello -

i am an architect and conservationist in Western Massachusetts with a passionate love of the remarkable history and beautiful landscape we caretake. while i encourage low-impact and low emission uses of our resources for energy, i caution the government to consider an important foundation. we are a Commonwealth which presupposes that the place as it exists is a valuable resource belonging to us all and under our curatorship as we balance public benefit and need. the government is the instrument of protecting the public and this place. just as we remove dams for fish passage instead of tapping the hydropower and building fish ladders, we don't fully consider the possible damage mitigation in wind power. we assume that the current inefficient thin blade wind towers are acceptable and must be located on the best wind channels. visually acceptable and accessible locations might be fine at 80% of summit power. i implore the government to consider the vast damage to the landscape not simply visually by locating wind turbines on the highest peaks but also by the roadways which must be cut and the trees which must be cleared. DCR rails against trails as causing "forest fragmentation," yet have no problem with this level of damage? tourism is Massachusetts bank, yet we continue to damage the remarkably beautiful place we have inherited. i encourage colocation of wind turbines in previously degraded sites such as cell tower locations and study of such new technologies as vertical column turbines. when a "wind farm" is deemed the best solution, local landscape designers and even sculptors need to be consulted as visually damaging rigid geometric placement is not as effective as organic and site-sensitive placement. remember; this place is a resource not only for our lifestyle and needs but also for our culture and soul.

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